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EDITORIAL PAGE

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A Good Choice

AN OUTSTANDING man with a habit of accomplishing the most difficult tasks is the new president of the city's Board of Education.

He is James B. Donovan who, although serving as the Board's vice-president since 1961, is nationally famous for the part he played in exchanging Soviet spy Rudolf Abel for U-2 pilot Gary Powers and for negotiating the release of prisoners from Cuba after the Bay of Pigs invasion.

Mr. Donovan, a 47-year-old attorney, is a man of diplomatic stature and that is an attribute he'll need in his new post.

Of course his biggest problem is school integration which he hopes to overcome "as rapidly as possible." He adds, however, that he will not "yield to every pressure group and go to ends which are both impractical and self-defeating."

It is his hope "to make available to the least privileged child in the city the finest public education that can be provided in a free society."

He faces hard and complex tasks, but we look with confidence to Mr. Donovan to finish what he starts out to do.

And, we look back with gratitude to our last Board president, Max J. Rubin, who, until his health forced him to resign, did not spare himself in his service to the city.